

We claim:

1. A method of treating acne vulgaris by:
  - (i) topically applying a composition comprising a green porphyrin photosensitizer and solublizer to skin tissue exhibiting symptoms of acne, and
  - 5 (ii) exposing the tissue to energy at a wavelength capable of activating the photosensitizer.
2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the photosensitizer is selected from verteporfin, lemuteporfin, and combinations thereof.
- 10 3. A method according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein the composition has a viscosity at 20°C of from about 50 cps to about 50000 cps.
4. A method of treating acne vulgaris by:
  - 15 (i) topically applying a composition comprising a photosensitizer to skin tissue exhibiting symptoms of acne,
  - (ii) removing excess composition from the skin, and
  - (iii) exposing the tissue to energy at a wavelength capable of activating the photosensitizer.
- 20 5. A method according to Claim 4 where the photosensitizer is selected from green porphyrins.
6. A method according to Claim 4 wherein the photosensitizer is selected from verteporfin, lemuteporfin, and combinations thereof.
- 25 7. A method according to Claim 4, 5, or 6 wherein the excess composition is removed by wiping with dry cloth, wiping with a moist towelette, washing with alcohol, washing with a soap free cleanser, washing with a mild shampoo, and combinations thereof.
- 30 8. A method of treating acne vulgaris by:
  - (i) topically applying a composition comprising a green porphyrin and solublizer to skin tissue exhibiting symptoms of acne, and

- (ii) exposing the tissue to energy at a wavelength capable of activating the photosensitizer,  
wherein the is repeated until the total number of acne lesions has been reduced by 30% or more.

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9. A method of treating acne vulgaris by:

- (i) photodynamically treating skin exhibiting symptoms of acne, and
- (ii) treating the same patient with topical retinoids, oral retinoids, systemic antibiotics, topical or local antibiotics, oral contraceptives, topical anti-androgens, blue light therapy, laser therapy, or combinations thereof.

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10. A method according to Claim 9 wherein the photodynamic therapy is carried out according to any of Claims 1 to 7.

15 11. A method according to Claim 9 or 10 wherein the non-photodynamic therapy is selected from topical retinoids, oral retinoids, topical antibiotics, topical anti-androgens, or combinations thereof.

20 12. A method according to Claim 9 or 10 wherein the non-photodynamic therapy is selected from topical retinoids.

13. A method of treating acne vulgaris by:

- (i) topically applying a composition comprising a green porphyrin and skin-penetration enhancer to skin tissue exhibiting symptoms of acne, and
- (ii) exposing the tissue light supplied by a light emitting diode device wherein the device comprises LED's emitting red light and LED's emitting blue light.

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14. A method according to Claim 13 wherein the red-light emitting LED's emit in the range 600-750nm and blue-light emitting LED's emit in the range 390-450nm.

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15. The use of a green porphyrin photosensitizer and solublizer to prepare a topical medicament for treating acne vulgaris, wherein the photosensitizer is capable of being activated by energy of a selected wavelength.
- 5 16. The use of a photosensitizer according to Claim 15, wherein the photosensitizer is selected from verteporfin, lemuteporfin, and combinations thereof.
17. The use of a photosensitizer according to Claim 15 or 16, wherein the medicament has a viscosity at 20°C of from about 50 cps to about 50000 cps.
- 10 18. The use of a photosensitizer according to Claim 15, wherein the photosensitizer is selected from green porphyrins.
- 15 19. The use of a photosensitizer according to any one of Claims 15 to 18, wherein the wavelength is in the range 600 to 750 nm or 390-450 nm.